



Friday, December 12, 2008
10 a.m.
Stimulus Bill Meeting
City of Columbia, SC

Attendees:

1. Mayor Bob Coble
2. Council Member E.W. Cromartie, II
3. Council Member Sam Davis
4. Council Member Tameika Isaac Devine
5. Council Member Belinda Gergel
6. Sam Foster, Vice Chairman of the USC Board of Trustees
7. Shirley Mills, USC Director of Governmental and Community Relations
8. Kyle Michel, Engenuity SC
9. Teresa Florence, Director of Government Affairs and Community Relations
10. Barbara McCall, McCall Associates
11. Ralph Garboushian, McCall Associates

Agenda:

1. Introduction of Columbia and its economic growth partners: University of South Carolina and Engenuity SC
2. Support for President-elect Obama's plans to provide major infrastructure assistance in the stimulus bill in order to create short- and long-term jobs
3. Importance of direct assistance to cities including the City of Columbia through the following programs:
 - Direct highway funding through the Surface Transportation Program (STP), including sub-allocation to metropolitan areas;
 - Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding for rebuilding infrastructure in low- and moderate-income neighborhoods;
 - Funding for the newly enacted Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) to advance climate protection and energy goals;
 - Law enforcement funding through Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) and Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Hiring and Technology Programs.
4. Many projects already underway in Columbia would benefit from assistance and many others are "shovel ready." Some examples are: North Main Street improvements; Harden Street improvements; Innovista and other efforts to grow green jobs.